

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 4 24 wherein at least one of the lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) extends along a circular curve.
4. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 4 24 wherein the curvatures of the plural lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) are formed on the basis of at least two differently dimensioned radii of curvature (R1-R5).
5. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 4, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein a central one (11c) of the lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) extends on the basis of the largest (R3) of the radii of curvature (R1-R5).
6. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 4 24 wherein at least one of the lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) extends a selected one of (1) rectilinearly ~~or~~ and (2) on the basis of ~~an infinitely long~~ a selected radius of curvature.
7. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 4 24 wherein the contact face (2) is formed exclusively with the curved lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) on the basis of radii of curvature (R1-R5) which are ~~smaller than infinite~~ up to 600 mm.

8. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 4 4, wherein two outer lateral sections (11a, 11e) which form two ends (8) of the contact face (2) are curved respectively on the basis of the a smallest (R1, R5) of the radii of curvature (R1-R5).
9. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 8, ~~characterised by the use of wherein~~ at least three entirely or partially differently sized radii of curvature (R1-R5) ~~for shaping~~ shape the lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e), the largest ~~radius~~ of the three radii of curvature (R3) being allocated to a middle lateral section (11c), and the smallest radius of curvature being allocated to the two end lateral sections (11a, 11e) of the contact face (2).
10. (canceled)
11. (currently amended) ~~Balancing weigh~~ The balancing weight according to claim 4 24, wherein at least three of the lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) respectively following one another are provided with different radii of curvature (R1-R5).
12. (canceled)
13. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 42 11, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ hypothetical extensions of lines extending from the lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) form acute angles (α , β , δ , γ) with adjacent lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e).
14. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 13, wherein the acute angles (α , β , δ , γ) increase as the distance from the middle region (9) increases and are largest in the lateral sections (11a, 11e) in the end regions (8).

15. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 4 24, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the curvatures of the individual lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) are at least one of not constant, and corresponding to the progression of a parabola, a hyperbola and an ellipse.

16. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 4 24, wherein ~~identically formed~~ identical lateral sections (11a, 11e; 11b, 11d) are ~~formed~~ provided in pairs with respect to a ~~hypothetical~~ line of symmetry.

17. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 4 24, wherein the clamping element (6) is cast of spring steel.

18. (currently amended) ~~Balancing~~ The balancing weight according to claim 4 24, wherein the bends (12) ~~have~~ are different distances from one another.

19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method of manufacturing according to claim 4 25, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the associated radii of curvature $R_1, R_2, \dots R_n$ are each constant and are dimensioned according to the following rules:

a) the first radius of curvature R_1 is to the left-hand (or right-hand) end of the contact face and the last radius of curvature R_n is to the right-hand (or left-hand) end of the contact face;

b) $u < R_1, R_n < o$, wherein u is a lower and o an upper measure for the radius of curvature;

c) with the following case distinction:

Case A: n is an even number and is at least 4: ~~$o = 4, 6, 8, \dots$ etc.~~

$$u < R_1 < o$$

$$R_2 > R_1$$

$$R_3 \geq R_2$$

$$R_4 \geq R_3$$

$$R_5 \geq R_4$$

...

$$R(n/2) \geq R(n/2-1)$$

$$R(n/2+1) \leq R(n/2)$$

$$R(n/2+2) \leq R(n/2+1)$$

...

$$R(n-1) \leq R(n-2)$$

$$R_n < R(n-1)$$

$$u < R_n < o$$

Case B: n is an odd number and is at least 3: ~~$n = 3, 5, 7, \dots$ etc.~~

$u < R_1 < o$

$R_2 > R_1$

$R_3 \geq R_2$

$R_4 \geq R_3$

$R_5 \geq R_4$

...

$R((n+1)/2) \geq R((n+1)/2-1)$

$R((n+1)^2+1) \leq R((n+1)/2)$

$R((n+1)^2+2) \leq R((n+1)^2+1)$

...

$R(n-1) \leq R(n-2)$

$R_n < R(n-1)$

$U < R_n < o$

21. (currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method of manufacture according to claim 20, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the radius of curvature is at least $u = 120$ mm and at most $o = 600$ mm.

22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method of manufacture according to claim 20, wherein at least a middle one of the lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) is dimensioned with a length of about 40 mm to 60 mm.

24. (new) A balancing weight (1) for vehicle wheels, the weight comprising a weight body (7) having a curved contact face (2) for contact with a convexly or concavely curved rim portion (3, 5) of a rim flange (4) of a wheel, and having a clamping element (6) which is a selected one of structurally integral, and provided subsequently with a holding spring to attach the weight body (7) at the curved rim portion (3, 5), wherein the contact face (2) is divided into plural consecutive lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) which are connected to one another by bends (12), and wherein at least three lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) are formed for contact with the rim portion and are joined together in a longitudinal direction of the weight body in a row by the respective obtuse-angled bends (12), and the cross-section of the weight body (7) at the obtuse-angled ends (12) is substantially equal to the cross-section of the weight body of the adjacent lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e).

25. (new) A method of manufacturing a balancing weight (1) for vehicle wheels, the balancing weight having a weight body (7) which has a curved contact face (2) for contact with a convexly or concavely curved rim portion (3, 5) of a rim flange of the wheel, and with a clamping element (6) which is a selected one of structurally integral, and provided subsequently with a holding spring, wherein the contact face (2) is divided into plural consecutive lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) that are joined together in longitudinal direction of the weight body in a row, and which are connected to one another by bends (12), wherein the contact face is formed with a number of consecutive lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e) which follow one another respectively with different radii of curvature (R1-R5), and the cross-section of the weight body (7) at the obtuse-angled bends (12) is substantially equal to the cross-section of the weight body of the adjacent lateral sections (11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e).